

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 2522 – SB 3317

April 7, 2010

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS (015717, 016420):** Amendment 015717 deletes the language of the original bill. Revises restrictions on political activity by employees of the sheriff's department, including adding provisions that (1) an employee who is running for an elected office may solicit and accept campaign contributions for their own campaign if they are not on duty or in uniform and (2) the restriction on endorsing any candidate in a campaign for elected office does not apply to an employee running their own campaign. These provisions apply to counties that have adopted a sheriff's department civil service law. Amendment 016420 provides a cause of action against the sheriff for a deputy sheriff who is terminated solely for running for elected office.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$100,000/One-Time  
Exceeds \$100,000/Recurring\*

*\*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:

MINIMAL

Assumptions applied to amendments:

- According to the Comptroller, revising these restrictions will not have a fiscal impact to state or local government.

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- Sheriff departments will adhere to the requirements of this legislation; deputies will not be terminated solely because of running for elected office. There will not be an increase in local government expenditures for increased payments due to this new cause of action.

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/kmc